

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**Office of
Campaign & Political Finance**One Ashburton Place, Boston 02108**727-8352**A-05**Dennis J. Duffin
Director*

April 25, 1983

Mr. John Y. Flynn
CAP Director
UAW
Region No. 9-A UAW
111 South Road
Farmington, CT 06032

Dear Mr. Flynn:

On March 7, 1983, this office received from you a request for advice relative to G.L. c. 55, the Massachusetts campaign finance law. Specifically, you have inquired as to whether the "CAP Councils", or subsidiaries thereof, of the United Auto Workers, would be considered "political committees" under Massachusetts law, and thus subject to the applicable requirements of G.L. c. 55.

Section 1 of Chapter 55 defines a political committee as;

"any committee, association, organization or other group of persons, including a national, regional, state, county or municipal committee, which receives contributions or makes expenditures for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a candidate, or candidates...or for the purpose of opposing or promoting a charter change, referendum question, constitutional amendment, or other question submitted to the voters."

The documents you have submitted with your inquiry indicate that the CAP Councils are part of a national UAW program primarily aimed at establishing information and service centers for unemployed members, assisting unemployed members and mobilizing community groups to assist the unemployed at all levels of government. Based upon the information you have provided, it is my opinion that these types of activities are not those political activities contemplated by G.L. c. 55, and as such do not trigger the reporting requirements of the Massachusetts campaign finance law.

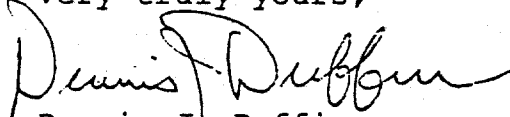
Mr. John Y. Flynn
April 25, 1983
Page 2

However, you have explicitly stated that each UAW CAP Council has a subsidiary, a PAC Account which receives its funds from the CAP Council, and you state that this PAC Account is strictly used for political contributions. In accordance with the above, this PAC Account would be considered a political committee for the purposes of the Massachusetts campaign finance law. Each PAC should file a statement of Organization with this office, and must comply with the disclosure, reporting and limitation requirements of M.G.L. c. 55. Each Political Action Committee must report the funding it receives from the CAP Council, as contributions, as well as any other contributions, and all expenditures.

In conclusion, a CAP Council would not be considered a political committee for the purposes of the Massachusetts campaign finance law. Each Political Action Committee Account, however, is a political committee, and as such, must organize and comply with the requirements of the Massachusetts campaign finance law.

This opinion has been rendered solely on the basis of the facts and description of activities as represented by you. If the nature of any of these activities should change, this opinion may no longer be applicable.

Very truly yours,



Dennis J. Duffin
Director

DJD/bva